



NEWS RELEASE

Drew H. Wrigley
United States Attorney
District of North Dakota

655 First Ave. N. Suite 250 P. O. Box 699
Fargo, ND 58102-4932 Bismarck, ND 58502-0699
701-297-7400 701-530-2420

For Further Information Contact: Julie Hough (701-297-7400)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 26, 2006

Cavalier Man Sentenced for
Aiding and Abetting False Statements in an Immigration Matter

FARGO - United States Attorney Drew Wrigley announces that **Christopher A. Anderson** of Cavalier, North Dakota, was sentenced on January 26, 2006, before United States District Court Judge Rodney S. Webb on a charge of aiding and abetting false statement in an immigration matter.

Anderson, 34, pleaded guilty on December 7, 2005, to knowingly and willfully aiding and abetting Linda Seely in making a false statement when Seely applied for entry into the United States.

On December 22, 2004, Linda Seely, a Canadian citizen, attempted to enter the United States through the Pembina Port of Entry while a passenger on the Jefferson bus line. Prior to the arrival of the bus, the Jefferson bus company faxed a passenger manifest to the Pembina Port of Entry.

Thereafter, United States Customs and Border Protection Officer James Fuller checked the criminal histories of those passengers. Based on this inquiry, Fuller learned that passenger Linda Seely was inadmissible because she had previous criminal convictions for theft and prostitution, and a bench warrant had been issued for her arrest for failure to appear on another criminal charge. Seely then admitted to United States Customs and Border Protection Senior Immigration Inspector,

Dave Montoya, that she had a criminal record and also told Inspector Montoya that she "got some bad advice." When asked to explain, she stated that her boyfriend, **Christopher Anderson**, a United States Customs and Border Protection Officer, had instructed her to lie about her criminal record when

-more-

attempting to enter the United States through the North Dakota Ports of Entry. **Anderson** was assigned to the Neche Port of Entry. Seely explained that **Anderson** was aware of her criminal history. Seely also told Inspector Montoya that she entered the United States through the Neche Port of Entry on several occasions with Anderson, even after he was aware of her criminal history.

Judge Webb sentenced **Anderson** to two years' probation. **Anderson** was also ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

“Christopher Anderson abused his position of public trust and threatened the integrity of America’s international border,” said United States Attorney Drew Wrigley, “I commend United States Customs and Border Protection Officer James Fuller and Inspector Dave Montoya for their exemplary work on this important investigation.”

The case was investigated by the Department of Homeland Security - Office of Inspector General.

Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Klemetsrud Puhl prosecuted the case.

-end-